Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7742

CONFIDENTIAL SAN JOSE 2690

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: VESCO DEPARTURE FROM COSTA RICA

REF: SAN JOSE 2638

- 1. FOREIGN MINISTER GONZALO FACIO TOLD CHARGE LATE JUNE 10 THAT HE HAD TALKEDTO ROBERT VESCO ON PRESIDENT ODUBER'S BEHALF AND HAD TOLD VESCO THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE COSTA RICA. HE SAID THAT VESCO HAD ACCEPTED THE GOCR DECISION, WAS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF DISPOSING OF HIS PROPERTIES IN COSTA RICA, AND WOULD LEAVE THE COUNTRY ONCE COURT ACTION IN THE RECHNITZER CASE (AN IOS SECURITIES FRAUD CASE BROUGHT LOCALLY BY A COSTA RICAN CITIZEN) MADE IT LEGALLY POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO DEPART COSTA RICA.
- 2. CHARGE ASKED FACIO WHETHER VESCO WOULD LEAVE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING RESOLUTION OF THE RECHNITZER CASE OR WOULD PROLONG HIS STAY FOR MONTHS. FACIO RESPONDED THAT VESCO HAS NO CHOICE; HE WILL HAVE TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY.
- 3. CHARGE ASKED FACIO WHETHER VESCO HAD GIVEN ANY INDICATION OF HIS DESTINATION. FACIO REPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THAT VESCO INTENDED TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE HIS LEGAL PROBLEMS THERE. FACIO COULD NOT SAY WHETHER VESCO WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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RETURN DIRECTLY FROM COSTA RICA OR WHETHER HE MIGHT GO FIRST TO SOME OTHER COUNTRY.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS SECOND HIGH-LEVEL INDICATION WE HAVE HAD THAT VESCO IS CONTEMPLATING RETURN TO U.S. HOWEVER, WE STILL SUGGEST THAT U.S. EMBASSIES AND PERHAPS HOST GOVERNMENTS IN OTHER LIKELY COUNTRIES OF REFUGE BE ALERTED

TO A POSSIBLE VESCO ARRIVAL. AS DEPT. IS AWARE, PANAMA, BAHAMAS, ARGENTINA, PARAGUAY, BRIZIL, CHILE, MEXICO, MOROCCO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI AND ITALY IN THE PAST HAVE BEEN MENTIONED OR RUMORED AS POSSIBLE NEXT COUNTRY OF REFUGE. NICARAGUA MIGHT ALSO BE ADDED TO ALERT LIST. KILDAY

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Subject: VESCO DEPARTURE FROM COSTA RICA

TAGS: PGOV, CS, PN, BF, AR, PA, BR, CI, MX, MO, DR, HA, IT, NU, US, (VESCO, ROBERT L)

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